

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-11. (Canceled).

12. (Original) A machine-readable medium having sequences of instructions stored therein which, when executed by a processor cause the processor to perform a process comprising:

automatically configuring a network cache so that the network cache is able to communicate with a database to authenticate a user; and
operating the network cache.

13. (Original) A device, comprising:

a network cache; and
a user interface to allow an operator to enter a character string known by the operator to be within a user object located in a database such that the character string is used to automatically configure the network cache so that the network cache is able to communicate with a database to authenticate a user.

14. (Original) The device of claim 13, wherein automatically configuring a network cache comprises:

searching for a character string in a plurality of objects located in a database;
selecting an object from a subset of objects found to contain the character string;
retrieving the object;

receiving a selection of the attribute name associated with the character string in the object; and

storing the attribute name in a configuration file in the network cache.

15. (Original) The device of claim 14, wherein the character string is a user ID.

16. (Original) The device of claim 15, wherein retrieving the object further comprises receiving as input a password corresponding to the user ID.

17. (Original) The device of claim 14, wherein the attribute name corresponding to each group ID in the object is selected and stored in a configuration file in the network cache.

18. (Original) The device of claim 17, wherein if a non-parental group object is found to have the user ID, the network cache retrieves the non-parental group object, receives a selection of the attribute names associated with the attributes utilized to identify the non-parental group, and stores the attribute names in a configuration file in the network cache.

19. (Previously presented) The device of claim 14, wherein the network cache guesses which attribute names to select once the object from the subset of objects has been retrieved.

20. (Previously presented) The device of claim 18, wherein the attribute names stored in the configuration file are checked for correctness.

21-29. (Canceled)